

THE SKY IS
FALLING!!



The Beginning of the End...Are We Ready?

Lesson 5

What does the Bible say about the end of the world (eschaton)?

Eschaton = the final event in the divine plan; the end of the world.

How many times have you heard in your lifetime, "The World will end at a certain time?"

How many times in your lifetime that someone says they know when Jesus is coming back?

Incidentally, the teacher (Gerald Cumby) knows (A) when He is coming back and (b) when the world (this earth) will end as we know it!

Scripture: "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father... Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with the hand mill; one will be taken and the other left...Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come" (Matthew 24:36, 40, 42).

My answer to you...I know when! (A) When the Father tells Jesus to come and take His Bride.

The answer to question (B) 1007 years after Jesus comes back for us!

The Bible has the answers...What answers do you want to ask God? His Word is enough for our finite minds to comprehend

The event usually referred to as “the end of the world” (eschaton):

- Described in 2 Peter 3:10: “The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.”
- This is the culmination of a series of events called “the Day of the Lord,” the time when God will intervene in human history for the purpose of judgment. At that time, all that God has created, “the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1), He will destroy.

It will be cataclysmic in scope. Cataclysmic = a momentous and violent event marked by overwhelming upheaval and demolition

- The “heavens” refers to the physical universe – the stars, planets, and galaxies—which will be consumed by some kind of tremendous explosion, possibly a nuclear or atomic reaction that will consume and obliterate all matter as we know it.
- All the elements that make up the universe will be melted in the “fervent heat” (2 Peter 3:12).
- This will also be a noisy event, described in different Bible versions as a “roar” (NIV), a “great noise” (KJV), a “loud noise” (CEV), and a “thunderous crash” (AMP). There will be no doubt as to what is happening.
- Everyone will see and hear it (on earth and in heaven) because we are also told that “the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.”

The timing of the earth’s dissolution:

- My understanding (Biblical understanding)...is it will be at the end of the 1000-year period called the millennium.
- During these 1000 years, Christ will reign on earth as King in Jerusalem, sitting on the throne of David (Luke 1:32-33) and ruling in peace but with a “rod of iron” (Revelation 19:15).
- At the end of the 1000 years, Satan will be released, defeated again, and then cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:7-10).
- Then, after a final judgment by God, the end of the world described in 2 Peter 3:10 occurs.

God will then create a “new heaven and a new earth” (Revelation 21:1), which will include the “New Jerusalem” (v. 2), the capital city of heaven, a place of perfect holiness, which will come down from heaven to the new earth.

This is the city where the saints—those whose names were written in the “Lamb’s book of life” (Revelation 13:8)—will live forever.

Peter refers to this new creation as “the home of righteousness”

(2 Peter 3:13, “But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.”)

Note: Perhaps the most important part of Peter’s description of that day is his question in verses 11-12:

“Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.”

What does this verse say to us?

- 1. Christians know what is going to happen, and we should live in a way that reflects that understanding.**
- 2. This life is passing away, and our focus should be on the new heavens and earth to come.**
- 3. Our “holy and godly” lives should be a testimony to those who do not know the Savior, and we should tell others about Him so they can escape the terrible fate that awaits those who reject Him.**
- 4. We wait in eager anticipation for God’s “Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come” (1 Thessalonians 1:10).**

The Bible gives us some ideas as to what our plans should be for preparing to meet our God....Preparing to meet Jesus....the author and finisher of our faith.

Why is it important to know? Why should heaven...or the life after Christ returns be relevant to our living today?

Some Christians are so obsessed with the last days that they are oblivious to these days. However, Some Christians are just the opposite....They’ll tell you Jesus is coming. But they live like He never will.

Is it time to panic....or is it time to be patient? Where is the balance?

The thought of “judgment day” troubles many....Christians and those that are not Christian!

Are there signs or some events that will happen where we will know when to start watching for His coming?

What signs indicate that the end times are approaching?

Answer: *Matthew 24:5-8 “Many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still*

to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains.”

An increase in false messiahs, an increase in warfare, and increases in famines, plagues, and natural disasters—these are signs of the end times.

In this passage, however, we are given a warning:

We are not to be deceived, because these events are only the beginning of birth pains; the end is still to come.

- Some interpreters point to every earthquake, every political upheaval, and every attack on Israel as a sure sign that the end times are rapidly approaching. While the events may signal the approach of the last days, they are not necessarily indicators that the end times have arrived.
- The apostle Paul warned that the last days would bring a marked increase in false teaching. “The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons” (1 Timothy 4:1).
- The last days are described as “perilous times” because of the increasingly evil character of man and people who actively “oppose the truth” (2 Timothy 3:1–9; see also 2 Thessalonians 2:3).
- Other possible signs would include a rebuilding of a Jewish temple in Jerusalem, increased hostility toward Israel, and advances toward a one-world government.
- ***The most prominent sign of the end times, however, is the nation of Israel.*** In 1948, Israel was recognized as a sovereign state, essentially for the first time since AD 70. God promised Abraham that his posterity would have Canaan as “an everlasting possession” (Genesis 17:8), and Ezekiel prophesied a physical and spiritual resuscitation of Israel (Ezekiel 37). Having Israel as a nation in its own land is important in light of end-times prophecy because of Israel’s prominence in eschatology (Daniel 10:14; 11:41; Revelation 11:8).

With these signs in mind, we can be wise and discerning in regard to the expectation of the end times.

We should not, however, interpret any of these singular events as a clear indication of the soon arrival of the end times.

God has given us enough information that we can be prepared, and that is what we are called to be as our hearts cry out, “Come, Lord Jesus” (Revelation 22:20).

LISTEN...LEARN...LIVE!